

**CANADIAN CANNABIS LAWS  
AND REGULATIONS**

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**CANNABIS ACT**

- The *Cannabis Act* came into force on October 17, 2018
- Provinces and territories determine how cannabis is distributed and sold within their jurisdictions



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**CANNABIS IN THE PROVINCES  
AND TERRITORIES**

Provinces set rules around:

- How cannabis can be sold
- Where stores may be located
- How stores must be operated
- Who is allowed to sell cannabis

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## CANNABIS IN THE PROVINCES AND TERRITORIES

Provinces and territories also have the flexibility to set added restrictions including:

- Lowering possession limits
- Increasing the minimum wage
- Restricting where cannabis may be used in public
- Setting added requirements on personal cultivation

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## WHERE YOU CAN USE IT

You will be able to use cannabis in:

- A private residence (your home or someone else's), including the outdoor space
- Your unit or on your balcony, if you live in a multi-unit building like an apartment or condo (depending on your building's rules or your lease agreement)
- Many outdoor public places (parks, sidewalks)

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## WHERE IT IS PROHIBITED

You're not allowed to use it in:

- Long-term care homes and retirement homes
- Schools or places where children gather (playgrounds, childcare centres)
- Workplaces
- Motorized vehicles or while driving
- Publicly owned places
- Restaurant and bar patios
- Sheltered outdoor areas where public frequents (bus shelters)



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## WHAT IS LEGAL?

Subject to provincial or territorial restrictions, adults who are 18 years of age or older are legally able to:

- Possess up to 30g of legal cannabis, dried or equivalent in non-dried form in public
- Share up to 30g of legal cannabis with other adults
- Buy dried or fresh cannabis and cannabis oil from a provincially-licensed retailer
- Grow, from licensed seed or seedlings, up to 4 cannabis plants per residence for personal use
- Make cannabis products, such as food and drinks at home as long as organic solvents are not used to create concentrated products

Cannabis edible products and concentrates will be legal for sale on October 17, 2019

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## POSSESSION LIMITS FOR CANNABIS PRODUCTS

- The possession limits in the Cannabis Act are based on dried cannabis
- Equivalents were developed for other cannabis products
- One (1) gram of dried cannabis is equal to:
  - 5 grams of fresh cannabis
  - 15 grams of edible product
  - 50 grams of liquid product
  - 0.25 grams of concentrates (solid or liquid)
  - 1 cannabis plant



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## CRIMINAL PENALTIES

Offense	Penalties
Possession over the limit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tickets for small amounts</li><li>• Up to 5 years in jail</li></ul>
Illegal distribution or sale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tickets for small amounts</li><li>• Up to 14 years in jail</li></ul>
Producing cannabis beyond personal cultivation limits or with combustible solvents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tickets for small amounts</li><li>• Up to 14 years in jail</li></ul>
Taking cannabis across Canada's borders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Up to 14 years in jail</li></ul>
Giving or selling cannabis to a person under 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Up to 14 years in jail</li></ul>
Using a youth to commit a cannabis-related offence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Up to 14 years in jail</li></ul>

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## CANNABIS (THC)

- There are two prohibited levels for THC, the primary psychoactive component of cannabis
- It is a less serious offence to have between 2 nanograms (ng) and 5ng of THV per ml of blood
- It is a more serious offence to have 5ng of THC or more per ml of blood

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## COMBINATION OF ALCOHOL AND CANNABIS

The prohibited levels of of alcohol and cannabis, when found in combination, is:

- 50mg or more of alcohol per 100ml blood, and
- 2.5ng or more of THC per ml of blood

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## IMPAIRED DRIVING PENALTIES

Charge	1 <sup>st</sup> offence	2 <sup>nd</sup> offence	3 <sup>rd</sup> offence
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drug-impaired driving</li> <li>• Having 5ng or more of THC per ml of blood within 2 hours of driving</li> <li>• Any detectable level of LSD, psilocybin, psilocin, ketamine, PCR, cocaine, mathamphetamine, 6-mam within 2 hours of driving</li> </ul>	<b>Mandatory minimum</b> \$1000 fine	<b>Mandatory minimum</b> 30 days imprisonment	<b>Mandatory minimum</b> 120 days imprisonment
	<b>Maximum</b> 10 years imprisonment	<b>Maximum</b> 10 years imprisonment	<b>Maximum</b> 10 years imprisonment
<b>Refusal to comply with demand for sample</b>	<b>Minimum</b> \$2000 fine		
<b>Drug-impaired driving – Summary conviction</b>	Maximum \$1000 fine		

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**ORAL FLUID DRUG  
SCREENERS**

- Can be used by police to detect the presence of some drugs in oral fluid, including THC.
- These devices are fast, non-invasive, and accurate.

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**OTHER INVESTIGATIVE  
TECHNIQUES**

Police can demand a driver to submit to:

- A Standard Field Sobriety Test (SFST)
- Or, a Drug Recognition Expert Evaluation (DRE)

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